

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moore.

Claim 12 describes a diverter valve, comprising: a housing with an internal top surface and an internal bottom surface; and a valve ring contained in said housing wherein said valve ring moves to the internal bottom surface on the application of a vacuum to said housing. In forming the rejection of claim 1 the examiner refers to Figs. 4 and 5 of the Moore patent. In particular, the examiner identifies the floating coupling head 144 as the valve ring. In fact, 144 represents a conically tapered tip 144 projecting into the chamber 134 (col. 6, lines 31-34). Claim 1 requires a valve ring which moves to the internal bottom surface of the housing on the application of a vacuum. From Fig. 4 and the accompanying description of in the disclosure, the conically tapered tip 144 contacts the floating coupling head 144 upon the application of a vacuum and does not contact an internal bottom surface of a housing. In fact, the housing 122 shown in Fig. 4 does not comprise an internal bottom surface.

In forming the rejection to claim 13, the examiner refers to 130 and 142 to represent a plurality of tubes. In col. 6, lines 23-27, 130 is described as an open end and not a tube as required by claim 13. Furthermore, in col. 6, lines 29-32, 142 is described as a coupling end and not a tube as required by claim 13. The application of a vacuum could not cause a valve ring to cover a plurality of tubes as required by claim 13 since these elements do not appear in the Moore patent. Claim 13 is also allowable over the Moore patent.

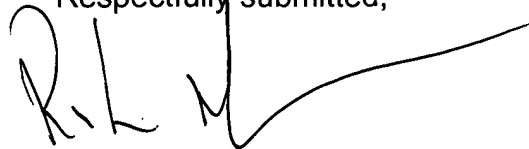
In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is

respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. K. McLarty', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Amendments to the Drawings:

None